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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0617

Inventors: Bennett and Cowser

Serial No.: 10/001,844

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Group Art Unit: 1632

Title: Antisense Modulation of SHH Expression

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On February 25, 2003

Jane Massey Licata
Jane Massey Licata Registration No. 32,257

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is being amended and claim 3 canceled to facilitate the search and examination of this invention.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding SHH (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said